(5) The policy of throwing open all Sirkar boys' schools to Eazhavas was persisted in, and all such schools, with the exception of a few situated in localites inaccessible to Eazhavas, are now open to them. These latter also have been ordered to be removed to unobjectionable places as early as practicable.

(6) A Caste Hindu Hostel was opened at Trivandrum for the benefit of the students of H. H. the Maharaja's College and of other educational institutions in Trivandrum. Rules regulating the constitution and management of the hostel were also framed.

(7) The minimum pay of teachers in all Sirkar schools was raised from Rs. 5 per mensem to Rs. 7 per mensem.

(8) Gymnasia—with the necessary apparatus and instructors—were sanctioned for a large number of schools—mostly Vernacular—which had been hitherto without them.

(9) Sirkar English Schools were withdrawn from places where private schools were found to be thriving. The High School at Alleppey and the Middle Schools at Tiruvella and Changanacherry were accordingly abolished. The English Middle Schools at Tiruvattar and Chirayinkil were also abolished as being unnecessary.

(10) Arrangements were made to secure a competent Instructor from Europe with a view to introduce Manual Training in schools.

(11) Several Educational Boards, consisting of non-official gentlemen, were formed.

49. Schools and scholars.—The total number of schools rose from 3,551 to 3,573, *i. e.*, by 22. The number of scholars showed the large increase of 10,032, having risen from 1,96,314 to 2,06,346.

50. Schools according to agencies.—Sirkar institutions fell in number by 6, but rose in strength by 2,699; aided schools rose both in number and strength, by 77 and 6,518 respectively; private unaided institutions fell n number by 49, but rose in strength by 815. The fall in the number of unaided (pial) schools and the rise in the number of aided schools are encouraging, as they show that a larger number of institutions are endeavouring to conform to the rules, so as to deserve recognition and aid from the Sirkar. One of the most backward taluks, Muvattupuzha, has returned an increase of 55 schools and of 1,630 scholars.

51. Scholars in relation to population.—The percentage of the total population under instruction was 7. The percentage of the total number of scholars to the total school-going population in the State rose from 27 to 28. Of the total number of scholars under instruction, 74% were boys and 26% girls. The corresponding figures of 1082 were 75 and 25.

52. Scholars in relation to caste and creed.—Classified according to caste and creed, 61% of the total scholars were Hindus, 34% Christians and 5% Mahomedans. The percentages of the previous year were 63, 33 and 4 respectively.

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